

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT****AND RESEARCH NOTES**

No.	Author	Date
846	<b>Barb Payne, North Region</b> Title <b>CLASSIFIED WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM</b>	

Wildlife habitat loss is the single greatest threat to the maintenance of all wildlife species. The concept of property tax reduction for the maintenance or preservation of wildlife habitat was endorsed by Governor Bowen and passed into law by the 1979 legislature. The main objective of the Classified Wildlife Habitat Act is to reduce habitat loss by encouraging landowners to develop or save existing wildlife habitat. The incentives for landowners to classify their lands and provide habitat are: the reduction of the assessed value of classified lands to \$1.00 per acre; and free wildlife management technical advice and assistance.

Statewide, the program now contains a total of 1,954 areas supplying 82,296.72 acres of wildlife habitat. The current mean Classified Wildlife tract size is 42.12 acres. During 2003, 47 new areas and 2,699.83 acres were added to the program and 559.79 acres were withdrawn from the program (13 total areas were withdrawn and 14 areas were partially withdrawn, where only part of the acreage was removed from the program).

As part of the requirements of the law, landowners are required to return an "Annual Report" each year on forms furnished by the Department. In January 2003, 1923 report forms were mailed out to landowners. Annual Reports allow both the owner and biologist to be updated on the health and management of the wildlife habitat area and to permit the owner to request any needed assistance. At least once every five years each parcel of land is to be re-inspected by the Division. In 2003, 361 areas were due for re-inspection.

**AREAS AND ACRES BY DISTRICT – JANUARY 1, 2004**

<b>District</b>	<b>Areas</b>	<b>Acres</b>
#1	37	1,788.53
2	325	12,721.57
3	170	7,198.41
4	111	4,071.25
5	9	356.03
6	77	3,441.99
7	108	4,376.90
8	69	2,360.91
9	58	3,452.43
10	33	799.13
11	107	3,850.60
12	60	1,754.32
13	2	77.32
14	155	6,724.80
15	80	3,580.48
16	70	2,713.15
17	149	7,228.22
18	8	374.67
19	93	4,285.11
20	105	4,080.68
21	23	954.28
22	105	6,105.94

# AREAS AND ACRES BY COUNTY – JANUARY 1, 2004

County	Areas	Acres	County	Areas	Acres
Adams	3	74.90	Lawrence	20	893.37
Allen	36	1,141.35	Madison	7	161.71
Bartholomew	10	305.36	Marion	12	205.89
Benton	5	180.30	Marshall	108	4,113.76
Blackford	5	102.84	Martin	13	472.32
Boone	11	255.45	Miami	16	495.37
Brown	9	341.86	Monroe	28	1,350.94
Carroll	8	199.96	Montgomery	9	221.25
Cass	16	769.30	Morgan	7	250.79
Clark	9	383.63	Newton	5	191.99
Clay	28	1,545.25	Noble	53	2,669.43
Clinton	4	109.95	Ohio	9	458.10
Crawford	33	1,223.29	Orange	17	625.57
Daviess	8	374.67	Owen	39	1,183.86
Dearborn	39	2,009.21	Parke	28	1,174.98
Decatur	10	263.81	Perry	34	1,221.27
DeKalb	33	1,390.52	Pike	21	1,358.16
Delaware	30	1,065.93	Porter	65	2,342.99
Dubois	14	586.62	Posey	23	954.28
Elkhart	37	1,879.54	Pulaski	9	356.03
Fayette	13	733.15	Putnam	19	624.34
Floyd	4	80.46	Randolph	11	260.86
Fountain	18	858.68	Ripley	47	1,837.04
Franklin	29	1,576.07	Rush	5	145.98
Fulton	39	1,789.43	St. Joseph	68	1,637.64
Gibson	23	1,793.55	Scott	8	343.32
Grant	9	352.50	Shelby	3	80.51
Greene	26	1,032.97	Spencer	23	984.23
Hamilton	6	124.92	Starke	37	1,788.53
Hancock	4	122.68	Steuben	32	1,327.96
Harrison	24	991.36	Sullivan	25	1,159.10
Hendricks	19	592.79	Switzerland	25	1,347.80
Henry	8	148.24	Tippecanoe	5	191.51
Howard	8	236.00	Tipton	1	24.42
Huntington	8	323.26	Union	8	259.37
Jackson	13	688.95	Vanderburgh	1	49.63
Jasper	6	706.70	Vermillion	18	1,981.03
Jay	11	426.33	Vigo	35	1,661.61
Jefferson	29	1,365.49	Wabash	20	734.30
Jennings	18	594.55	Warren	6	503.26
Johnson	2	77.32	Warrick	24	2,057.26
Knox	19	835.04	Washington	18	776.37
Kosciusko	111	4,071.25	Wayne	37	1,383.05
LaGrange	15	702.13	Wells	6	292.23
Lake	48	1,610.00	White	7	249.74
LaPorte	47	2,747.64	Whitley	37	1,108.37